

**BOW VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
January 6, 2016 – Learning Commons**

Attendees: Raelyn Bauer, Fiona Gilbert (Board Trustee), Georgette Johnson, Rob Kimura (Principal), Valerie McCracken, Karen Packer, Kathy Tillotson, Francine Wieliczko

Regrets: Amanda Schultz (Assistant Principal)

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Valerie at 7:05pm

2. Guest Presentation – Scholarships & Bursaries by BVHS Guidance Department

Jan Higgins and Jackie Hatton presented an informative PowerPoint about scholarships, bursaries and applying to post-secondary institutions. Some scholarships/bursaries are specific to BVHS students only; some are local (Cochrane) and others are general or outside of BVHS/Cochrane. This presentation is also given to students at BVHS. It can also be found on the BVHS website. Handouts and website links were available to complement the presentation. The “Alis” (www.alis.alberta.ca) website was noted as being exceptionally helpful as well as www.myBluepring.ca. There is a Scholarship Committee at BVHS. Emphasis put on starting early to develop a portfolio and looking at which scholarships to apply for (i.e. grade 11 is a great time to start!), that grade 11 marks are becoming more important, particularly for early admission or for more competitive schools. The importance of extra-curricular activities was also noted. Sample portfolios are available at the Guidance office. (over 24 parents and students attended the presentation)

3. Welcome & Introductions

Everyone was welcomed

4. Approval of Agenda – January 6, 2016

Motion: Georgette motioned to approve the Agenda as circulated. Karen seconded. Carried

5. Approval of Minutes of December 2, 2015

Motion: Francine motioned to accept the Minutes of December 2, 2015 as circulated. Karen seconded. Carried

6. Old Business/Outstanding Items

i) On-Line Volunteer Form

- Valerie continues to work on this. It was also mentioned that the staff dinner provided by parents was very successful and much appreciated.

7. Report from Bow Valley Administration

- Semester 1 coming to a close. Students should note when tutorials for exam preparation will be scheduled

8. Report from the Board of Trustees

- RVS cancelled international trips to Europe (= 8 trips cancelled across RVS)
- There will be a competition to name the new school in Fireside (Grade K-8). A decision will be made in April or May 2016. The form to submit a name can be found on the RVS website
- Transitional meetings for certain students transitioning from MMS to BVHS are starting
- Kindergarten registration opens on Monday, January 11
- Next Board meeting tomorrow

9. New Business

i) Yearbook - Feedback

- Positive feedback provided on yearbook cover, grad coverage, special events, etc. The hours it takes to put together a yearbook was also recognized
- Mr. Kimura explained that there is no Yearbook Committee consisting of students; it is primarily 2 adults (1 parent and 1 staff member) that take on the task
- It was suggested that Sports be better represented. Football and Rugby well covered but other sports (up to 6) covered on two pages with very few team photos or action shots. Rob explained it can be a challenge to get photos of sports as they happen outside regular school hours. Parents at the meeting offered to help – they just need to know where to send the photos. It was also suggested perhaps some of the CTS classes help out with taking photos to ensure that every student (especially in grade 12) is captured at least once in photos (outside of the school photo)
- It was also suggested that very small photos or photos where it is difficult to see who is in the photo be replaced with bigger photos
- Action: **Mr. Kimura** to provide feedback to Yearbook Committee. **Mr. Kimura** to request an email to go out to all parents that informs them which email address they should send photos to (e.g. of sports teams, action shots) and if more volunteers are needed with layout, etc. to include a request to parents (and students?) with a contact so they can get more involved

ii) Sports Team Fees/Budget

- Mr. Kimura explained that all sports are user pay and funded by the students participating in the sport (registration fees, uniforms, sub costs, travel, some equipment, etc). RVS provides minimal support (if go to Provincials, RVS will cover the cost of 1 sub for travel). No discretionary budget is given by the school. 1% of sport fees are collected to fund those students who otherwise could not participate due to financial reasons. A small honorarium is given to community coaches. Sport team budget is “zeroed out” each year
- Mr. Kimura also explained that high quality uniforms are very expensive. There has been a division-wide movement to buy lower quality uniforms (i.e. 20% the cost of high quality

uniforms) each year and have the students keep them throughout their participating years and then be able to keep them permanently. At BVHS this is already in place for such sports as volleyball, track and badminton.

- Blue & Gold Evening – currently this is a mandatory fee that all athletes must pay (but only pay once if on multiple sports). It is expected that all athletes attend. Feedback was provided by parents that if the sport programs are user-pay that athletes shouldn't have to pay this fee unless they are attending

- Action: **Mr. Kimura** to bring feedback to the Blue & Gold Committee that only athletes who are attending should pay for a ticket, similar to parents who have to order tickets if they want to attend

10. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 8:33pm

Future Meetings: February 3 – 9am, March 2 – 7pm, April 6 – 7pm, May 4 – 7pm (AGM)